PREFACE

Any science information study is incomplete without taking into consideration the communication patterns, habits and behaviour of scientists because scientist himself is the producer, consumer and to some extent the disseminator of information. How do defence scientists gather information? What kind of literature they use? What about there awareness of different library sources, systems and services? What problem they face while gathering information? What suggestions they put to overcome information gathering problems? etc., are the thrust areas which are probed in this investigation.

Faced with the prospect of large user demands and ever-tightening budgets, it is increasingly necessary for the library managers to plan and allocate resources in the most effective manner in concert with the objectives of the laboratories/establishments (labs/estts) with which the library/Technical Information Centre (lib/TIC) is affiliated. The library manager must be able to identify information needs, awareness, habits of defence scientists to cope with the problems which scientists face while gathering information.

As no organisation provided any financial help to me for the field work, I had to spend on my own for extensive traveling, printing questionnaire, xeroxing of the needed literature, typing and computer work.

Whatever merit the thesis has in due solely to the immaculate guidance of my venerable mentor. Shortcoming, if any, any be attributed to my want of perspicacity. And hence, following Hemachandral's saying I urge:

PRAMANA SIDDHANTA - VIRUDDHA ATRE
YAT KINCID UKTEN MATI MANDYA DOSAT
MATSARYAMA UTSARYE TAD ARYACITTAH
PRASADAM ADHAYA VISODHAYANTU
- SABDANUSASANA

"May the nobel-minded scholars, instead of condemning, kindly correct any error committed here through dullness of my intellect in the way or wrong statements and interpretations".

Translated by S. Radhakrishan
formerly President of India